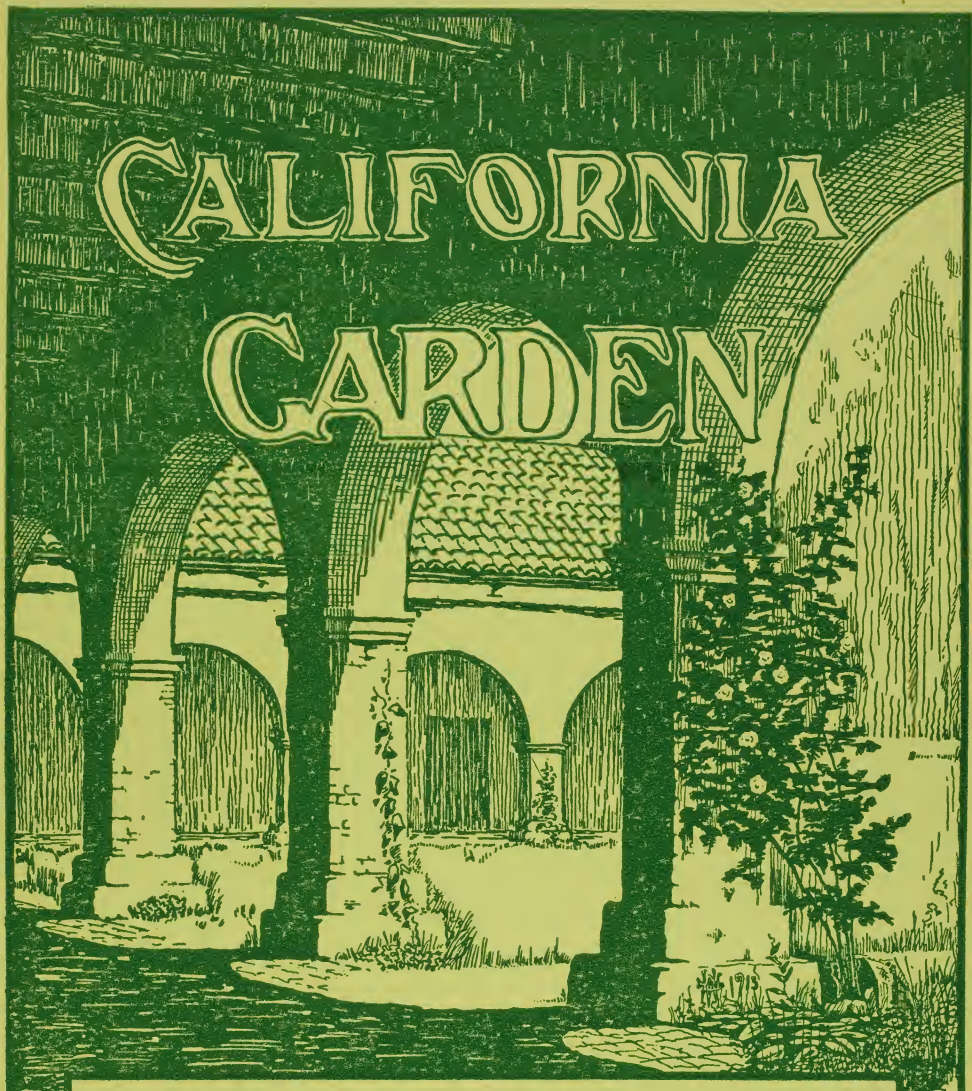

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MARCH, 1914

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Farm Bureau Meeting
Raising the Exhibition Rose
Attractive Front Yards
The Flower Garden in March
Seventh Annual Spring Rose Show

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The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 5 POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, MARCH 1914 No. 9

The work of the San Diego Floral Association and the California Garden, which is one and the same thing, is bearing fruit, so that he who runs can see the crop. All over the city clubs, lodges and individuals are crying aloud, "Let us beautify San Diego for 1915." The awakening to the need of this is somewhat belated, for our gardeners are not Indian Yogis, who can grow a plant with flower and fruit from the seed while you wait, and so many worth while things take more than a twelve month to get established, but much can be done, and we will hope that the desire for floral beauty will create the love of it and both will survive the passing of the Exposition year. The California Garden and the Floral Association are much more concerned about the beautification, than getting the credit of being pioneers in the field and hereby release all claim to any honor that may follow any planting any where.

There is a rumor that Los Angeles folks are backing their floral people to the tune of a quarter of a million, just for flower shows, etc., and among other features a continuous exhibition on a large scale is to be open free throughout the year. Is it possible that our northern neighbor can have realized that for a genuine unfakable advertising of climate scheme such an exhibition is in a class by itself, unapproachable?

It is unwise to forget or unfortunate not to be able to recognize that climate is the great pull that draws to us as residents the moneyed folk, and when we get them, there is no trouble about the others to help them spend their dollars.

A brave man and a good citizen was the minister who dared to criticise the so-called "boost" advertising literature. He will probably be pretty generally condemned and labelled "knocker" for daring to imply that the range of the English language could exaggerate the possibilities and resources of San Diego, but that won't affect the real truth of the matter. One is reminded of the case of the big and the little man. The latter called the former a liar, whereupon muscle said to the weak, "if you do that again I will knock your head off." "Even so," replied the threatened, "how will that affect the truth of the matter."

San Diego in her class can successfully challenge the world. Why go into somebody else's class? Her class is that of the Great Out of Doors. A class that knows no limit of race, age, sex, or society. Pardon, we had forgotten our alien act done last year, and had better stop before we get into more trouble.

The following postcard speaks for itself. It arrived when we were washing our auto, robed in a suit of underwear only, for want of a bathing suit, and even then we detected no goose flesh on our hide.

"Springfield, O., March 2, 1914.
"Dear Sir: Thermometer registering zero here this morning; plants by parcels post would simply be out of the question. They would be frozen before getting out of our city; however, will pack light and ship by express as soon as practical to do so."

This is not quoted to gloat over Springfield's thermometer by any odious comparison, but rather to say what manner of man can the writer of this be, who under such conditions can supply Rex Begonias at five dollars a hundred, and in a variety that can not be obtained on the coast at four times the price, where they will survive in our lath houses from year to year. Possibly life is too easy, in this wonderful land, to call forth the supreme effort by which we truly grow in wisdom and stature.

Our rose show, San Diego's rose show, is set for April 16 to 18. By the measure of its support shall we measure the real strength of the cry "Beautify our City." We shall see whether it be merely the wind of a passing thought or the recognition of a need really felt.

Farm Bureau Meeting

By G. T. KEENE

The meeting of the San Diego County farmers in this city, Friday, Feb. 20, was an event which promises to mark an epoch in this county's agricultural development.

The primary object was to organize a county farm bureau and raise funds to insure an agricultural adviser for this county, but in addition to accomplishing that end, those present had the privilege of listening to several addresses, any one of which was worth all that the organization will cost them. Even the man with only a little back-yard garden was well repaid for listening to these talks dealing with the first principles of planting a seed so that it will grow, as well as the last word in scientific farming.

Dean Hunt, of the Argicultural College, stated that there are in this State 100,000,000 acres of land, 30,000,000 of which is potentially tillable, and 20,000,000 more acres are adaptable to agricultural purposes. Only one-sixth of the tillable land is actually under cultivation, and in the whole State are only 2,500,000 people. There are 3,400,000 acres under irrigation, and 9,500,000 acres may sometime be irrigated, but 20,000,000 more cannot possibly be irrigated, and if it is to be made to produce, it must be by dry farming. Phoenix, Arizona, brought over 200,000 acres under irrigation and sold $1,000,000 worth of waterpower, as a sort of by-product.

In talking of dry farming, the speaker said he was not going to recommend new tools or a big outlay of money, but simply to do the right thing at the right time, and keep a dust mulch. And then he said, "You won't do it, because you must look two years ahead." To raise a crop in June, 1913, land had to be disced in June, 1911. One bountiful crop is raised every two years instead of a hard-scrabble one each year.

Dr. J. H. Webber, in charge of the Citrus Experiment Station, told and demonstrated by pictures of growing crops, the old saying that "blood will tell," even in the breeding of plants, and predicted that the time will come when all trees will be raised from the best selected buds. He poked fun at the farmer who sells his best potatoes, and keeps the measly, scabby ones, which no one will buy, for seed potatoes.

O. H. Benson, of the U. S. Agricultural Department, goes about doing a work which aims to guide the boys and girls toward the farm of the future. He urged the parents to give the boy or girl a man's or a woman's job, but on a smaller scale, if you would interest them. If they are to exhibit a prize apple, let them cultivate, irrigate, prune, disbud, spray, or any other necessary steps up to picking the perfect fruit. Let them do something that really counts, and don't forever be telling them they are too young or too small. The real test of a man's job is a net profit on the investment. Show the young folks the manly and womanly opportunities on the farm to "make good."

"In two particulars," said the speaker, "the American people are absolutely the worst. In the carelessness with which they feed their stomachs, and in the use of patent medicines. They have no knowledge or thought of food values, and to relieve their overloaded interiors are forever taking laxatives, with just enough intoxicants or drugs in them to form an appetite for more."

Some of the points for the sons and daughters to learn are in raising fruits and vegetables, market gardening, home canning, and eliminating waste. Achievement is not necessarily the mastery of books; Nature is the best book to read.

The trouble with this money-making business is that too many never learned how to make an honest dollar. The fine examples of the boys who have won success in corn and potato clubs should be an inspiration to any young American. Many of them have put the best efforts of their fathers to shame, simply because they selected their seed and followed its growth from the planting to the harvest with watchful eye and willing hand, and the best of it is, the boys are all enthused over the great possibilities opening before them.

Dean Van Norman, president of the

National Dairy Association, told the fine points of a cow, demonstrating his talk by the aid of a "$2,000 cow", a fullblood Guernsey, from the ranch of Walter Dupee, Santee. He showed the difference between a beef cow and a dairy cow in a way most enlightening.

Prof. Crocheron, who is at the head of the Farm Adviser movement in California, explained the needs and the possibilities of service of such an individual, a constitution was adopted, officers elected, and a dollar collected from as many as wished to be identified with the movement.

The meeting was called to order by Carl Heilbron, representing the Chamber of Commerce. He introduced Mayor O'Neill, who welcomed the visitors to the city, after which R. C. Allen acted as temporary chairman. The officers and directors at large elected are Judge W. R. Andrews, president; George P. Hall, of the Little Landers Colony, vice-president; H. Culbertson, T. H. Slingsby, H. H. Bawden, and W. E. Alexander. A secretary and treasurer will be elected by the directors. Horticultural Commissioner Weinland was temporary secretary.

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

This is really the lath house article, but, it being desired to emphasize these begonias, the lath house has consented to give place among the titles for this month.

Tuberous begonias, as their name implies, though grown from seed in most instances, make a tuber before blooming. This tuber is circular with a depression, or saucer shaped side, and this side is the top from which the shoots issue. They must be planted right side up or they will do no good. The difficulty in some instances of identifying this top side has led to the practice of starting them to grow before potting or planting in the ground, and the method is to place on moss or sand and keep damp in a temperate atmosphere.

They do best in a light soil, preferably leaf mold and sand, and must have perfect drainage. The tubers should only be just covered in planting. They require a good deal of water at the root, but they should not be sprayed overhead. In our lath houses they reach great perfection, and bloom from June to October. For largest blooms they should have frequent application of liquid fertilizer. They also do well outside in a northern exposure if protected from draughts. In England they are used for bedding just like geraniums and the tubers are much cheaper there. They should be started into growth the end of this month.

They can be had in singles and doubles in white, yellow, orange, pink and red, and frilled and fringed. The flowers are very brilliant in coloring and the singles reach five and six inches in diameter, the leaves also are very ornamental. It is strongly recommended to all gardeners to try some of these flowers, if only two or three as house plants, for which they are admirably adapted. Remember perfect drainage is absolutely essential.

Sweet Peas Thirteen Feet Tall.

A sweet-pea number of The Gardener, published in England, tells of the performances of Victor Hamel, a lad just out of school, in Dunedin, New Zealand, who carried off all the best prizes in numerous sweet-pea contests.

His plants, numbering over 300, and comprising 36 varieties, were all autumn sown in pots, wintered in cold-frames and planted out in spring in prepared trenches 2 feet by 2½ feet. Three stems were carried by each plant and disbudded freely. A height of 12 to 13 feet was attained. Flowers of exhibition quality were cut for three months despite abnormally bad weather conditions. Aside from some of the rough work, the lad undertook the whole of the cultivation single-handed.

Frank Peltret, a former resident of San Diego, is interested in the development of a Garden Club among the school children of Los Angeles, every member of which is to start some form of home garden work. He has figured out in dollars and cents the benefit to be derived in increased land values.

Plans are under way in Merced County to plant shade trees on both sides of the California State Highway the entire length of the county, thirty-eight miles. They will be planted a uniform distance apart and all of the same variety. Money is being raised by subscription, and sections will be planted as the funds permit.

Raising the Exhibition Rose

A. D. ROBINSON

In view of the approach of the Spring Rose Show, to be held April 16, 17, and 18, it behooves every one with a rose bush to see if a good bloom cannot be grown for exhibition. This means not a chance flower, but one that has been thoughtfully cultivated. The weather is not referred to to fill space or as a bait to catch tourists, but because it is an important factor in this rose business. The very warm days with a maximum of sun in conjunction with a soil full of moisture has forced the roses almost unduly, and more than likely a first crop will have passed before the time of exhibition. So far the season is an exceptionally early one. This passing of the first blooms is not altogether a loss, though normally they are the finest with most varieties, because the exhibition bloom develops slowly and is the product of a cool, moist atmosphere. Heat and dry air force too early blowing and cause under-sized snub-nosed roses. Though the reckoning of the time a rose bud will take between its first pushing and its crowning glory, the rose itself, and by bud is meant that of the shoot not the flower, is fraught with much uncertainty and attended with good chances of providing false prophecy, it must be attempted here, if any help is to be given the would-be exhibitor, and so to the bush.

The roses that have not been disturbed and those planted very early have shoots varying in length from a quarter of an inch to six inches or more. Some of the latter will be showing the flower bud, and all in this condition will have blown and passed away long before April 16th, therefore they are only to be reckoned with as robbers of the strength of the bush in so far as roses for the show are concerned. It is too much to expect of human nature that they be all removed, but the number of these early ones should be kept very small, not more than two or three to a bush and those well scattered. Even shoots not yet budded but three or four inches long are probably too forward but excepting the very earliest it is guess work, so what is to be done? Evidently to nurse along shoots of varying stages of development, with the idea of removing or limiting the number of those which as time goes on promise to be too early for the purpose in mind.

If any attention has been paid to the directions as to selecting buds given last month, the bushes now should show a reasonable number of fast pushing growths evenly distributed. Every bud has another dominant one on each side of it and frequently these start up soon after the main one. Rub them off if it is desired to mature the first; if a later effect is wanted take off the middle and one at the side. If a shoot be injured in any way, even slightly, remove it. Show blooms are the result of unchecked progress.

Make it a business to visit your bushes every day, watchfully, hopefully, lovingly, for there be those, whom some of the world's folks call wise, who say even plants feel love and admiration and respond to it, though of course the great majority scoff at the idea. Never mind that, it's the small minority that leads into new fields of endeavor.

What shall you watch for? The aphis that sucks and can be subdued in the primary stage with finger and thumb, or tobacco water, whale oil soap or even ordinary soap suds. The worm in the bud or the leaf that it sticks together, must be found and destroyed. The mildew that frosts the leaf and spreads so quickly, must be treated with sulphur put on while the dew yet glistens in the morning. And the rust that spots with orange the under side of the leaves calls for Bordeaux Mixture.

The rose bug, that hard shelled brown son of Beelzebub, who flies by night and hides by day, usually does not appear till after the show. If he should feel the call of the early season and prove one of the troubles of the would-be exhibitor, he must be hunted with a lantern and executed, without benefit of clergy, right on the scene of his crime.

We all believe with the daily press that rain will descend in due season, so it is merely mentioned as a sort of impossible eventuality that if it does not, the roses must not be allowed to suffer for moisture.

Are you cultivating? Is the ground round your bushes loose and well pulver-

ized? If you desire to fertilize now, use the liquid; use it weak and in sufficient quantity to go down to the roots. If you need a hurry up later on, use nitrate of soda, sprinkle it like salt on the top of the ground and a rain or a good sprinkling will take it where it will do good. A little fertilizer is good but more is seldom better. The average rosarian gives fertilizer in too big doses and not frequently enough. To the readers of this, the writer, who has labored for years to make more and better roses in San Diego, commends the Rose Show April 16, and if his labor has been of any benefit to any one, won't that one reciprocate by exhibiting, it is all the reward that is asked.

THE DAHLIA.

(Alfred D. Robinson.)

I strongly advise the planting of dahlia tubers earlier this year. To be more explicit, the end of March or the beginning of April. That is, those that have been wintered in Southern California. Tubers from the East would not come under the same conditions. My reason is that at this writing, March 1st, the tubers are making shoots and seedlings in the open are three to six inches high. One seedling has a bud. Before, it has been written that the attempt to hold back tubers after they show signs of growth by not planting, results in weakening their constitution. If flowering is to be delayed it is better attempted by cutting back after planting, and in any case I am still much enamoured of the Peacock system of cutting back to form a bushier and sturdier growth.

Large clumps that had several strong shoots last season, can be divided to advantage, always remembering that dahlias grow from the crown and not from the tuber. It is safe to leave an old stalk to each division. In planting get the tubers four to six inches under the ground, deeper may cause loss from rotting, especially if a long spell of wet weather should come. Don't plant when the soil is mucky. If you are going to use stakes put them in when you plant, for obvious reasons. The dahlia is not a suicide that should have a stake in his inside. If you have tagged your tubers give a little attention to arrangement of color. The dahlia has been awfully sinned against in this respect.

Dahlia seed should be planted right away. For the average person, it is recommended to sow in the open, shading or covering the ground till the seeds are well up, and afterwards giving them full sun to cause a steady growth, transplanting when they have made two pairs of true leaves. In this connection attention is called to the Rosecroft seed, obtainable only as a premium with a new subscription to this magazine. With pardonable pride I think and as corroborative of the claim that this seed was the peer, if not the superior of any on the market; the following extract is made from a letter recently received enclosing a renewal of subscription. Speaking of dahlias grown from this seed the writer says:

"They were beautiful beyond description. Never before had I realized that mere dahlias could be so superb. The fame of their beauty spread abroad and people came in crowds "just to see the dahlias." While in the East I saw many collections—went to a grand flower show on Long Island, where there was an exhibit made by a Mr. Brown, who made a specialty of dahlias—saw great quantities of them in Boston and other cities, but there were none as beautiful as those grown from the seed from Rosecroft." Mrs. B. M. Wall, San Bernardino, March 4th, 1914.

The writer of the above letter is a lifelong and successful flower grower, and knows whereof she writes. Rosecroft dahlia seed can be a big factor in beautifying San Diego for 1915. Realize this and send in your new subscriptions.

At a recent mass meeting held in Escondido a vote of those present showed the pepper tree to be the preference of the greatest number as a street tree, with the black acacia second, and the palm third. City Forester Max Watson, of San Diego, and J. H. Reed, of Riverside, gave talks on tree planting.

Twenty carloads of orange trees are being planted on the Sierra Vista ranch, Jasmine. Pumping plants on the various sections are furnishing the water. A half section is also to be planted to olives.

The women's Civic League of Pasadena are warring on bill-boards, and have been commended by the city commission for their efforts to make the city more attractive.

The Advertising Value of Attractive Front Yards

From a Talk by G. T. KEENE To the San Diego Ad Club

The advertising value of pretty streets and front yards brings up again the old question as to what really is our greatest asset.

It is safe to say that nine out of ten of the people of the north and east want to get away from the coal hod and the snow shovel, and a great majority are hoping that the time will come when they can migrate to some place where the winters are less severe.

California has long been heralded as the land of sunshine and flowers, and the eastern person who comes out here expects to see a far greater profusion than we at present can show them. The city that approaches nearest to the picture they have formed in their minds will be able to annex them as citizens and enthusiastic supporters.

A favorable first impression is worth more than all the arguments about first ports, back country, and increasing values. Show them a city with clean streets, avenues lined with trees of uniform size and like variety, with parkings bright with warm colors, front yards with rich green lawns, and borders of harmonizing or contrasting colors, vacant lots free from dead grass and rubbish; let these things greet their eyes and the aroma their nostrils, and if every mothers' son of you were dumb, they would want to camp right here for the rest of their days, and if impossible to remain, each would go away a living advertisement for San Diego.

Next year the park and the exposition grounds are going to be wonderfully beautiful, but people can't live in the park or take up their residence in the horticultural building. And besides everyone expects expositions grounds to be fixed up for show like a chorus girl, and they don't expect the paint to stay on forever.

It is the residence section which will give them an itching to cast their lot with us, if we make the best showing, or with some of our neighbors, if we don't.

It is understood that Los Angeles is planning on spending a quarter million dollars in a continuous floral exhibition throughout 1915. They are going to give away millions of cut flowers, and going to have so many beautiful parkings that the visitors cannot help being impressed.

And yet, our natural advantages are far ahead of Los Angeles, if only each individual would look after his own front yard, and back yard as well, and be willing to co-operate with his neighbor.

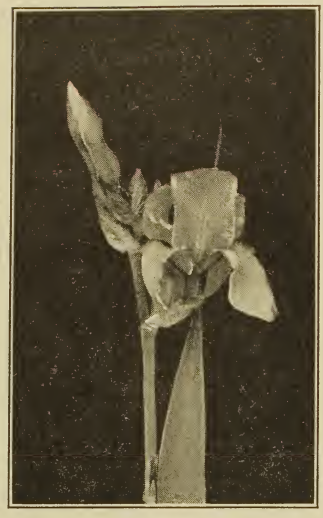
If we do this thing right we can give the visitor the impression, and it will be true, that life in San Diego is one big twelve-months' vacation. Back-east ideas of a vacation take in the ocean beach, the mountains, out-door sports, sleeping in the open air, fishing, hunting, motoring on land and water. All these advantages are ours at any time of year, but we must add to these the trim, neat, attractive appearance. Broken-down fences, dirt-covered and unpainted houses, broken limbs hanging from the trees, rubbish heaps on the vacant lots, bad walks and pavements, all will work to our disadvantage.

An annual clean-up day will do little good; we must keep clean all the time, and plant, plant, plant. San Diego should set out thousands of rose bushes, and other thousands of our old faithful friend, the geranium, and besides these there is an endless variety of flowering and sweet-scented shrubs, border plants, and plants for hanging baskets; plants that love the sun and others that love the shade, some that thrive in one kind of soil and others that are happy in just the opposite kind.

Escondido people got together and planted ten blocks of street parkings on both sides of the street. Riverside has ordered 5,000 rose bushes to be distributed throughout the city; others are thoroughly awake to the advertising value of the flower and the blade of grass. If we are inclined to be mercenary it will not be hard to figure out the cash value of beauty as an asset.

Perhaps one of the hardest things will be to get the residents of any one block to agree on what to plant. If each has a different idea and sticks to it, there will be

Continued on Page Fourteen



Growers of the Iris in Europe and the Eastern States, tell us that by proper selection, they can have Iris in bloom two or three months in the year—that is, in the open. In our sunny California climate we can grow all in the open, and by proper selection, we can have Iris in bloom every month in the year. Some varieties bloom more than once during the year, while others throw up all of their flowering stems simultaneously, apparently trying to make as great a display as possible. Some are more deliberate, and thus extend their blooming period over two or three months.

We have been inteersted, in observing our plants, to notice that some with evergreen foliage are annual bloomers, while some bloom out of season when almost devoid of foliage, but of course not so freely as during the proper blooming period. They are splendid drought resistant plants, therefore peculiarly adapted to our semi-arid climate. On the whole the so-called "German" irises are the easiest of cultivation, and they may still be planted this season. In this group there are several hundred varieties, different colors, different markings, combinations of different shades and colors; some varieties dwarf, but a few inches high, others a foot, two feet; three feet, and the tallest 4 feet and over, the height being governed somewhat, however, by the culture.

Familiarize yourself with this interesting genus of plants,—if not already on more than speaking terms with it,—by securing a copy of Mr. Dykes book in the gardening series on Irises. In following his cultural directions, bear in mind the difference in our climate from that of England. This book contains 8 fine color plates, representative of the different groups, and with the interesting and instructive text, is a valuable addition to the library of one interested in the cultivation of the beautiful in plant life.

IRIS

Special Offer of "German" Iris for 1914

WE HOPE by making very low prices on some of our "German" or bearded Irises, to induce many to try a few plants this season. This is not a cheap lot of stock, but includes many of the choicest varieties. We have various collections, of five varieties each, at 50c, 75c and $1 for the collection, sent postpaid. We guarantee to please you. Descriptive circular on request.

THE DEAN IRIS GARDENS, Moneta, Cal.

The Rudiments of Gardening

Official Bulletin No. 7, Issued under Direction of Prof. H. J. Baldwin, County Superintendent of Schools
Teachers will use contents of these Bulletins for their regular classwork in Agriculture

"Quiz" in Agriculture

By GEORGE P. HALL
President Little Landers Colony, San Ysidro, Cal.

How Plants are Propagated and Increased:

Question. What are the principal methods of obtaining and increasing plants shrubs and trees?

Answer. By Seeds or sowing seed in the soil; by layering, division cutting, stolens, budding, grafting and inarching.

Q. How are seeds obtained and treated in order to secure additional plants and crops from them?

A. Nearly all plants produce blossoms, fruit and seed, all of which contain the vital germs of life stored up for means of propagation, when given the proper conditions in which to germinate and reproduce its kind.

Q. How long will these seeds retain their vitality and grow, if rightly cared for properly-kept dry and in darkness?

A. There is a wide range and difference of several years, but several of our common garden vegetables will grow after from 3 to 8 years after being gathered from the parent plant. Celery will grow after 10 years; egg plant 6; cucumbers, 6 to 10; beans and beets, 6 to 10: small seed like lettuce, 5 to 9; onions, 2 to 7; peas, 4 to 9.

Q. How are plants increased by layering?

A. Plants that trail along the ground and even those of upright growth like the pomegranite can be increased by lying down and covering with soil at different intervals and they will root down at the point where they touch the ground. Dewberries, blackberries and similar habited plants are increased by this means. Strawberries by runners which put out from the parent plant; cranberries, by either layering or by divisions. Grapes can also be propagated by this means.

Q. What is meant by "cuttings"?

A. Cuttings are pieces of mature, sometimes soft wood, cut from the growing plant and placed in the ground to take root. Grapes, figs, barberry, olives, quince, gooseberry, currants and blackberries are all grown from cuttings rooted and transplanted into the garden.

Q. What is meant by "grafting" and budding"?

A. Grafting is taking a piece of limb from a superior variety of tree or shrub and by making either a "cleft" whip, "veneer" or splice uniting the "scion," or piece you cut from the tree, to the "stock" or tree you are seeking to change from a poor variety to a better or to color of brighter hue. Budding is generally resorted to in case of small shrubs, where a bud from a superior variety is inserted into a "stock" you wish to improve. There are several methods of budding, by incisions or cutting open the bark and inserting a wedge shaped bud, tying it down to exclude air and in due time, if the work is well done, the bud will grow and then the old stock, except that part which sustains the new, is cut away and in this way you can change fruit and flowers to suit your wish. Pieces of roots are often grafted and then the new variety grows up from the root stock so grafted. These sometimes throw out "suckers" which can be used in the plan of propagation.

Q. How are fruit trees changed from the sour, small fruit to the large luscious varieties?

A. By grafting, budding and sometimes from pollenization of the blossom with a better variety and the seed from this planted and a new variety is obtained.

Q. What is pollenization?

A. Pollenization is taking the pollen or "seed dust" that flowers produce and changing it to a different flower, covering the same so no bees nor birds can disturb it and when the seed is grown it has been given qualities it did not possess before. Thus colors in flowers are changed; fruit made more attractive and useful; undesirable qualites are taken away and better ones put in their place. Plants so treated are called "hybrids" and hybridization is a method students can practice and may surprise the world, as Burbank has done by the wonderful changes made in plant improvement.

The March of the Garden

George P. Hall

March has the longest planting list of any month of the year. If you did not get your potatoes in before the generous rains it is still time to repent and plant the very best tubers of a reasonable size you can, in fact managed right, it is the very best time to provide for the generous crop of tubers. The last of the month get in the sweet potato sprouts. They require a long season to mature well. You can easily do some dry farming with all the moisture now in the soil, just cultivate it well as soon as you can and get a dry dust mulch on top to keep in the moisture below, and corn and many other crops can be successfully raised from the present rainfall.

About the only things to omit this month are to put in the open the egg plant and peppers, and this depends somewhat on the season—All indications point to a warm March, except one cool spell about time of the vernal equinox. Put in some early kind of corn; a kind you do not care much about, then plant Golden Bantam, Minnesota evergreen and any of the tight wad varieties. As a usual thing "tight wads" are not popular, but a corn that winds its husk so tight about the end of the ear that no worm can get in it is deservedly popular. The row you planted early for a "trap crop" gets the early worm, and you can feed him, corn and all, to the gentle Jersey cow. She likes worms when there is any corn on them.

The garden will need lots of cultivation, as the weeds think they are having a season made to their order and how they will draw on the soil and the fertilizer you put in for the garden stuff.

What a time for the whole list of annual flowers, for making cuttings from your berry plants, for the new kinds you are going to get, and the new trees. Never was there a better season for planting them, no matter what kind, from now on till last of April, and Citrus trees during all that month. Good time to plant hedges. It usually takes 5,280 plants one foot a part to set a mile of hedge.. Monterey cypress can be set 3 feet a part and will require 1,760 to the mile. Atriplex hamolides—Oldman salt bush—is one of the best plants you can set for a hedge where you will not have much water. When established it will live on the usual seasonal rainfall. Quince and Pomegranite make excellent windbreaks also.

More and more people are using posts and wire to cover with burlap to keep out cool spring winds and hot summer sun. Nearly all plants do love partial shade and protection from the increasing gentle trade wind, that from now on near the coast will be in evidence from sunrise to evening shade.

The catalogues bloom out with newer and brighter plants and fruits, flowers and shrubs and you must not miss this planting season. You may never get another such a planting year, as there is assurance that there is moisture way down where roots love to delve.

It is late for sowing all sorts of cabbage seed except for the dry weather cauliflower, and cabbage plants ought to be well under way. Just fill the garden up with all that is dear to your palate. Watch the birds and dose the bugs; aphis thrive numerously in wet seasons but hot days are a source of distress to them. Use repellants like tobacco stems, carbolic acid and lime, bordeau mixture for fungus. Do not put tomatoes where you had potatoes last year or the reverse. They take up each other's family troubles too easily, and need a clean field where scab and nematodes are unknown. Guess you will have to string up some of those beautiful little birds after shooting, it looks cruel, so give the birds plenty of green stuff without their watching for your young seeds to come up for them to devour.

If your alfalfa patch is getting "measly" give it a topdressing of lime or marl, lots of marl crops out in many places close to the roads. Plant plenty of Crimson Winter rhubarb. Put plenty of manure in the trench when you plant it, it will give good returns.

The Imperial Valley cotton crop is estimated at 20,000 bales for this year, with the prospect of three times that much next year. The wonderful success in cotton in the valley will increase the area planted in a compound ratio.

Riverside has a beautification committee which is to look after the distribution of 5,000 rosebushes. The plants are to be furnished by the nurseries of Hemet and will be of ten different varieties of 500 each.

The Flower Garden in March

By MARY MATTHEWS

In looking over some late numbers of the Garden's Chronicle, the official organ for eastern floriculture, and reading about the beautiful things they were exhibiting in New York grown in pots—acacia, buddlea, etc.—I had a feeling of pity for them and at the same time thought how little we avail ourselves of the great advantage we have here, that of out-door planting. Two-thirds of the shrubs and plants mentioned will succeed in the open with us, with only moderate attention. One thing especially mentioned was a new Buddlea Asiatica, pure white, and deliciously fragrant, tender in the east but growing in its native state to fifteen feet high. This ought to do well with us, and as to the acacias, one has only to have seen them in Balboa park this season to realize how glorious they are here in the spring time. We feel as if we wanted every variety we have seen. From now on is the time to plant them.

Going back to this Garden's Chronicle, in December they announced that the schedules and premium lists were ready for the spring flower show to be held from March 26-28, thus giving intending exhibitors over two months in which to decide what they wanted to show and bring them to perfection. Of course all of our members are getting ready for the April show. A great many of the early spring bulbs will be past their prime, but there ought to be enough of the later ones to make a good showing. For quick results work in a little bone meal around the roots and when the bloom stalks appear, water with nitrate of soda. Overhead sprinkling in the evenings tends to lengthen the stalks.

Speaking of bulbs, I would like to know if there is an early and a late watsonia grown here, or is it just a question of soil, location, etc.? Mine never bloom till along in April, but in several yards lately I have seen them about to bloom. With the copious rains and this fine, warm weather, numbers of the annuals and perennials ought to be in bloom next month. Glorious results are expected from the rose growers, both experts and amateurs, and altogether it ought to be the best show held prior to 1915.

For the coming year we ought to plant shrubs, vines and all permanent, quick-growing stock. Poinsettias are always admired and sought after. Among a number of our shrubs that make a rapid growth and always appreciated by the stranger within our gates, are the jasmine, the Escallonia, Genista, the Spanish broom, Diosma, Statice, Senecio and many others. Don't forget the fragrant ones, the scented geraniums, the heliotropes, night blooming jasmine, datura or properly speaking Brugmansea, the choysia, olea fragrans and others cherished in old time gardens. You know we so often hear the remark, "Yes California flowers are beautiful, but they have so little fragrance." All that have been mentioned and a host of others are inexpensive, easily and quickly grown, and add much to the charm of a home. If one does not care to, or cannot plant in variety, why not grow just one thing and bring it to glorious perfection? Pelargoniums are wonderful in growth and color combinations here. Petunias have been brought to an amazing state of perfection, a bed of Spanish Iris in any one of its color combinations, a collection of daffodils and narcissus in sorts, or a yard full of dahlias grown from seed. There is a long, long list of things that can be so easily cultivated, and any one of them grown alone will bring praise from the beholder and joy to the grower.

A new white rose has become very popular in France named after the Marquise de Mores, a former New York girl. It is the result of a marriage of the Marie van Houtte with General Schablikine. The new rose has big, graceful petals and is regarded the finest of the many fine roses in France.

The people of Whittier are trying to find the name of a plant with a long, red, fuzzy stem, and a long, green pod or bud at the top. It is growing in a nursery, but the owner cannot tell from whence it came, or its parentage.

Pickings and Peckings

By The Early Bird

I am a hapy bird these days, with a crop full of worms—and that reminds me to try and dispel a very stubborn superstition about this article of my diet. Worms, that is that kind I consider the greatest delicacy, angle worms, do not destroy plants. They have no effective biting or chewing apparatus, and many authorities ticket them as beneficial, as their workings tend to aerate the soil, further they are good for birds and chickens and to go fishing. Should their presence in pots prove unacceptable they can be ousted by a soaking with lime water, that is the clear liquid left after lime has been slacked and left to settle. I have naturally, from my dietary, made a study of worms and know they most do congregate where the ground is wet to swampiness. This wetness is what causes the damage to plants, for which the worms are sometimes blamed.

In stiff soils, a surplus of water which can easily follow a heavy rain, as the drainage is slow, is very bad for most plants, and those having to deal with this kind of earth, especially in early planting, should seek to promote drainage and keep the water away. Wood ashes and sand, worked into the soil are very helpful and it also is good practice to ridge slightly, planting on the ridge, as by this means the surplus water is led away.

There! that is the most practical I have been for a long time, and I forced myself to it that I might indulge in a flight of fancy. We have been weeding our new lawn for two weeks, and the weeds were like the stars in the milky way, a great multitude that no man could number, and as the weeding got kind of mechanical, my imagination aeroplaned thus. The efforts so far made for the eradication of objectionable growths have been weeding out by hand, by cultivator, and latterly by spraying. Now if plants are sentient growths, capable of likes and dislikes, why should not one plant be found so antipathetic to another that the planting of the first would eradicate the second. For instance, is it possible that in the vegetable kingdom is a growth that could make the Johnson grass move on and out, and yet itself be easier of eradication by man's means. I never heard of any investigations along this line, and yet it does not seem so crazy after all. There was the old superstition that roses and mignonette would not grow together. They will and do in my garden, but the idea even if not true is along these lines.

After I had gotten this bug in my crop I flew over the rose beds and to me it seemed as if Frau Karl Druschki leaned over to General MacArthur, Madame Cecile Bruner had her arms entwined with William Allen Richardson, while Stella Gray and Harry Kirk had got next to each other and Edward Mawley was trying to hear what they were talking about. Of course this was attraction, but that is merely the opposite pole of repulsion.

A Miniature Garden.

The little California Garden, exhibited at the Industrial Fair by the Floral Association, attracted a great deal of attention, and no doubt did a lot of good advertising for the association.

The garden was designed by our president, L. A. Blochman, and to Mr. and Mrs. Blochman and Miss Florence Jackson is due the credit largely of making this undertaking a success. The old hickory summer-house and fence, loaned by the Frevert-Bledsoe Furniture Co. made the garden effect most pleasing. A graveled path bordered with mosscovered stones, brought in by the San Diego Stone Co., wound through the garden and on either side were various interesting large and small plants. In the center was a little running fountain. The north wall was hung thick with foliage from the exposition nurseries, all neatly labelled. Circulars explaining "Why the Floral Association" and sample copies of the California Garden magazine were given to visitors, besides a great many cut flowers.

Adviser Appointed.

James A. Armstrong has been appointed to the position of Farm Adviser for San Diego County. His qualifications are said to be of the best, and he has already been making his first round of visitations, accompanied by Prof. Crocheron of the State Agricultural College.

The California Garden

Alfred D. Robinson, Editor
G. T. Keene, Manager

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MARCH MEETING.

The March meeting will be held Thursday evening the 27th in the Annie Besant Lodge rooms, Seventh and D, Second floor. Arrangements for the Rose Show will be made.

FEBRUARY REGULAR MEETING

The principal business of the February meeting was the setting of the date for the Seventh Annual Spring Rose Show, and Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 16, 17 and 18, was decided upon. The Chair appointed as a Show Committee, Miss K. O. Sessions, Miss A. M. Rainford and Mr. A. D. Robinson, with power to add as many others as they saw fit.

The secretary was assured the backing of the association in undertaking the planting of another lot to late varieties of wild flowers, provided interested parties would give the use of the lot and stand a part of the expense.

It was suggested that the table decoration feature be called to the attention of the ladies of San Diego, and they be urged to engage tables long enough in advance to insure all being taken.

Making wildflower displays a special feature of the show and the bringing out of novelty features in the way of amusements was also urged.

Each member was asked to come to the meetings with some experience to be told, question to be answered, or flower to be discussed.

Mr. West, of Mission Hills gave an inviation from the Brotherhood of that section to attend their meeting on the third Thursday in March, when tree planting would be discussed. In order that the members might attend, the March meeting of the Floral Association was set for the fourth Thursday, and the Annie Besant Lodge rooms were engaged for three months as a meeting place, and unless otherwise noted, they will be held on the Fourth Thursday evening. The lodge rooms are on Seventh St., between C and D, second floor.

Those present at the last meeting enjoyed a rare treat. The San Diego Gibson Quintet gave four excellent numbers. Their work is much more than ordinary, and it is a real pleasure to hear them. The deep rich tones of a bass mandolin, an instrument new to most of us, adds greatly to the pleasing harmony. This organization is planning on giving a concert in the near future and it is hoped the Floral Association members will avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing them. The personnel of the Quintette is as follows:

Leroy E. Hammond, 1st Mandolin.
Wendel Kaiser, 1st Mandolin.
Lucile Czarnawski, 2nd Mandolin.
A. Rosenthal, Mandola.
Fred Grumm, Mandocello.
J. B. Michael, Mando-bass.
Ruth Brockmeier, Piano.

The selections were:

1. March, "Toastmaster".....Odell
2. Selection from "Mikado", arr. by Odell
3. "Humoresque" .....Dvorak
4. March, "The Crescendo".....Odell.

Advertising Value of Attractive Front Yards

Continued from Page Eight

no harmony and no uniformity, and the job of getting the desired results will be an endless task.

So much may be accomplished with a little money. Most great improvements run into the hundreds of thousands, but if this city should spend ten thousand dollars in an investment in plants and flowers, the result would be astonishing.

If you have the idea that beauty is a luxury get it out of your heads. In San Diego it is necessary to our greatest prosperity. Let us all work for it.

PREMIUM LIST

Seventh Annual Spring Rose Show

Buxton Arcade, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, April 16, 17 and 18

CLASS 1.—FOR AMATEURS.

1. Best Collection of Roses—not less than 12 varieties and not over three flowers of a kind.
2. Best Collection of six varieties of Roses—not over three of a kind.
3. Best six White Roses of one variety.
4. Best six Pink Roses of one variety.
5. Best six Red Roses of one variety.
6. Best six Yellow Roses of one variety.
7. Best six of Shaded Yellow Roses.
8. Best six of Shaded Pink Roses.
9. Best Arranged Basket of Roses by any amateur (medium sized basket.)
10. Best Arranged Basket of Flowers other than roses.
11. Best Arranged Basket of Wild Flowers.
12. Best Display of Bulb Flowers.
13. Best Display of Pansies.
14. Best Display of Wild Flowers, by individual.
15. Best Display of Wild Flowers, by any school in the County.
16. Best Display of Cut Flowers and Plants grown by a child.
17. Best Display of Annuals.
18. Best Flowering Plant for the house.
19. Best individual Specimen of Decorative Plant.
20. Best one Rose, any variety exhibited singly in this class.
21. Best one Rose exhibited by a Novice.
22. Best Display from a 50-foot lot.
23. Best Collection of Flowers grown by any one public school.
24. Best San Diego County Seedling Rose.
25. Best Display of Pressed Wild Flowers by any San Diego County School.

CLASS 2—FOR PROFESSIONALS.

26. Best Collection of Twenty-five Varieties of Roses—not less than three nor more than six of each kind.
27. Best Twelve Red Roses of one variety.
28. Best Twelve Yellow Roses of one variety.
29. Best Twelve Pink Roses of one variety.
30. Best Twelve White Roses of one variety.
31. Best Twelve Yellow Shaded Roses.
32. Best Twelve Pink Shaded Roses.
33. Handsomest Vase of Roses—not over twenty-five blooms.
34. Best Rose never before exhibited in San Diego.
35. Best Exhibit of Cut Ornamental Vines.
36. Best Display Seasonal Nursery Stock—either cut or growing.
37. Best Table Decoration with Roses, limited to six tables, each table to be a different Rose. Selection by the exhibitor in order of entry. An early entry gives choice. Communicate with Mr. A. D. Robinson regarding this feature.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Plants offered for competition must have been the property of the exhibitor at least three months.

Cut flowers exhibited shall, as far as possible, be accompanied by some of their foliage and buds. The committee will welcome exhibits, however small, even a single specimen, if meritorious.

In those classes where color is specified, color is the first consideration.

The Committee on Awards is authorized to give suitable prizes for any meritorious exhibit not named on the premium list.

No prize shall be awarded for any article on exhibition unless it possesses points of superiority.

In no case can any article placed on exhibition be removed until after the close of the show.

Any plant placed in a collection competing for a certain premium shall not compete for any other premium.

Awards will be decided on the first day, and announced as soon as possible.

No premiums will be given to competitors failing to keep up their exhibits.

For the protection of property, exhibitors will not be allowed to dispose of cut flowers or plants until the official close of the exhibition.

Exhibits are not confined to members of the Association—any one may exhibit—but it is hoped every exhibitor will become a member.

Exhibits must be in place not later than noon Thursday, April 16, when the judges will begin to award the prizes.

A clerk will be at the hall to make entries all Thursday morning.

DIRECTIONS FOR BRINGING ROSES TO THE SHOW.

Flowers should be cut the night before rather close and put in water over night—or cut very early in the morning and stood in water for an hour.

Then they must be carefully packed in shallow paper or wooden boxes, which have been lined with damp newspapers.

Do not crowd the flowers into boxes, and be careful that the ends of buds do not touch the box. Make an effort to fasten flowers in the box so they will not slip. Take a coarse stitch with twine through bottom of box or nail a brace in the wooden box to hold the contents firm. If large sprays and branches of roses are gathered they should be sprinkled and damp paper laid between each branch.

Hopeful Signs.

Active members of the Floral Association are taking keen interest in, and derive much satisfaction from the numerous reports of a general awakening to the needs and great possibilities in making our streets and homes more beautiful by the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers. Improvement clubs make these topics subjects for discussion; the daily press are giving editorial space to helpful suggestions along this line; our city officials recognize the importance of general activity in planting; and our neighboring cities and villages are organizing floral and tree planting societies. This general interest is what the San Diego Floral Association has long hoped to awaken, and the prospects for a cleaner, prettier, and more attractive city and county, were never brighter than at the present time.

It is a pleasure to note the increasing interest among young folks in gardening and agricultural pursuits. Quite a number of school boys in San Diego are growing successfully one or more kinds of plants, in which they take real pride and derive a great deal of satisfaction.

These boys seem to have grasped the great fact that there is no cleaner, better, nor more honorable vocation than tilling the soil, and as they progress they will find ample opportunity for the display of ability, reliability, endurance and action.

Many boys are reading Blackstone today who have none of the earmarks of even a second-rate lawyer, and it is quite possible that those same boys would find the greatest joy and satisfaction in producing the most bushels of potatoes per acre, or in figuring out the best methods in growing and marketing oranges and lemons.

The Garden has received a new catalogue from the Exotic Nurseries, Santa Barbara, with many illustrations of the ornamental trees and shrubs i nwhich they specialize. They are advertisers in this magazine and our subscribers may have the catalogue for the asking.

Ontario fruit growers claim fumigating of trees for mealy bug, according to directions given by the county horticultural commissioner, killed trees as well as bugs, and they want damages.

Annual Rose Show, April 16, 17 & 18

Robinson's Corner

Governor Johnson has been with us to refute the charge of "Too much Johnson" and "Great Scott" followed to reiterate the complaint. We did not hear either of them but have no report that contained any reference to Rosecroft Barred Rocks. Both of the silver tonged or brass lunged, according to what your politics may be, were wise enough to know that this Barred Rock question is no longer an issue, for in the home cities of both, Rosecroft demonstrated that it was "it" and forced recognition of the fact. In any event if you want to know about moose go to Johnson, about elephants ask Scott, but if you want the best of the original American fowl, the Barred Plymouth Rock, come to us for eggs. The first edition of the Cock-a-doodle-do for 1914 is nearly exhausted, be active if you want a copy.

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California Native Plants

New price list containing over fifty species of native trees, shrubs and perennial plants mailed free.

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